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**Newsletter**

**Number 17**

**22 June 2012**



**Website** [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

**Phone / Fax** (09) 433 5823 **Email** – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

**Thanks**

- .. To those parents who have assisted in the preparation of science fair projects.
- .. To those parents who have booked interview slots next week.
- .. To those who have assisted this week with the collection of famine money.
- .. To Clive Adams who has volunteered his expertise and time to make safety improvements to the pull off area opposite the school entrance - at no cost to the school. This is very much appreciated Clive.

**People of the week**

- .. Our science fair participants
- .. Orlando received "Player of the Day" for Hikurangi Rugby JB1-Red.
- .. Daniel and Jamahl who made the Grizzlies Rugby Rep team. Also Daniel made the Whangarei U13 Rugby Rep team.
- .. Tylar who has shown great commitment and dedication to her early morning exercise getting up at 6am to go for a run with her Dad.

**CO-OPERATION VIRTUE**

The recipients of our co-operation virtue awards will be announced at a brief assembly around 2:40 next Friday. Congratulations in advance to these students (and their parents).

**Coming up this term**

- 25/26 June Parent / Teacher Interviews
- 26 June Matarau School Science Fair Prize Giving
- 27 June Mobile ear Clinic outside Bush Rd Medical Centre
- 29 June Final day of term 2

**Mid year Interviews - 25/26 June**

If interview days did not suit, teachers are available in the new term by appointment.

**Early Finish - 25/26 June**

Remember that school finishes at 2:30 PM on 25 and 26 June. Please note that buses will run approximately 30-40 minutes earlier on these days and that parents who pick children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please.

**Shuffle up of some junior (year 1 and 2) students**

The parents of around 15 junior children will this week have received a letter advising of our intention to move their child from rooms 2 and 3 to room 4 or from room 4 to room 6 effective from the beginning of next term. It is quite usual practice to shuffle junior children at mid year to keep new entrant numbers as low as possible, and to ensure that existing children continue to be extended in their learning. A great deal of careful thought has gone in to these changes. If parents have any questions they are most welcome to contact Mrs Robertson or Mr Trewhella with their questions.

### Mrs Marvin's Literacy Class

Mrs Marvin remains available to discuss the progress of the children in her literacy programme. If you were unable to take advantage of appointment times for this week, and you would like a run-down on your child's progress, feel free to give Mrs Marvin a call.

### After School Reading Labs

A reminder to parents of children in After School Reading Labs that these will not take place next week due to the busyness of this week. Labs will resume again in week 1 of term 3.

### Kapa Haka

Please note that the above programme will not take place next Tuesday due to interviews.

We have a group of talented students who are keen to perform. For their dream to be fulfilled we need a guitarist. Please let the office know if you or a family member, or friend, may be able to assist. Leave the name of the person volunteering and a phone number and Sue Abbott will contact you.

### Portfolios

Portfolios were issued last Friday. If you have not yet done so please ..

.. set aside a special time to view this with your child - **ACTUALLY MAKE A SPECIAL APPOINTMENT WITH EACH CHILD**

.. ask them what they are **most proud of** (the portfolios have a boast section at the back)

.. ask them to show you their **greatest area(s) of improvement**

.. have a look at their Learner Journey sheet to see how they have progressed against the goals they (and you) set at the beginning of the year.

.. **be POSITIVE**. Praise them for their gains and tell them how proud you are of them.

.. show them how much they have improved compared with earlier samples (left hand leaf - most recent samples right hand leaf)

.. ask them where they would most like to improve and note this down

.. **note down any impressions you would like to further discuss with their teacher at mid-year interviews.**

.. this year portfolios contain new inserts which describe the National Standards applicable (Reading, Writing and Mathematics) at your child's level of schooling. These describe some of the key things an average NZ child should be able to do and gives you some useful tips on how you can help at home.

**Please remember to bring portfolios with you to interviews.**

### Parents of 2011 Science Fair participants

.. please note that photographs taken last year of exhibits and exhibitors in our school fair may be used in a forthcoming Whangarei promotional initiative. This is a wonderful opportunity to profile our students and school. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used for this purpose, or you have any questions, please contact Kevin on Monday.

### Mid Year Data Reports

.. will be handed to you at interviews. These reports contain SOME of the assessment data that teachers collect over time and are a useful complement to portfolios. As well as the regular tables showing results against national norms, these reports now contain a table showing each child's performance against the National Standards. The National Standards require teachers to make an overall judgement (based on a wide range of data and observations) of whether your child is below, at, or above the standards for their age. For junior children this information is only provided on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> or 36<sup>th</sup> month anniversary of their arrival at school. For other children it is provided at the mid and end points of their year of schooling. To learn more about the standards parents are encouraged to read over the National Standard inserts in each child's portfolio or to contact their child's teacher. Please note that the standards are still relatively new (as are our processes for assessing and reporting on these) and so we are also learning as we go.

### School Science Fair

.. will be open for viewing in the school hall 25 to 27 June. We encourage families to drop by on their way to or from mid year interviews to take a look at exhibits and perhaps participate in some activities. Prize Giving will take place at 7:00 PM in the hall on 26 June (children receiving awards will be advised beforehand). *This year's science fair is sponsored by Alastair Rickey Decorating.*

### School Production

In Term 3 the Upper Middle and Senior schools will be presenting the 2012 Production. We are all very excited and keen to get underway. We are looking for kind and creative parents to be part of this exciting adventure. We require parents to assist with the making of all the costumes. Most work can be done out of school hours and there will be several staff to help and support you.

If you are interested could you please get in touch with Simon Schuster asap, either by the school phone or you can email sms.schuster@gmail.com.

### Famine

A small number of children have not yet returned their famine money. It is now urgent that this money (and sponsor booklets) are returned to school .. this coming Monday please. Thank you for your support.

### Matarau Hockey - Sponsored by McQuinn Ground Spread

Well Done to the following players of the Day Saturday 15 June :



C Grade - Aimee



D Grade - Brianna



E Grade - Caitlin

### Matarau Netball

Well Done to the following players of the Day Saturday 16 June:



Yr 4-6 - Aimee



Yr 6-8 - Laura

### International Schools Maths and English Papers

.. Maths papers and answer booklets were distributed this week. It is pretty important that children do at least two practice papers during the forthcoming holidays to maintain their momentum. The English Exam is in the third week of the new term (The Maths Exam is in the fifth week) and so we are now at around mid-point in our preparation for the **English** exam .. by which point children should have done at least 3 or 4 practice papers. In earlier years (for most children) we have noticed a close correlation between the number of practice papers completed and performance in the final exam .. so please support your child with their home efforts.

**Milk in Schools** .. for those who have enquired .. should be up and running early next term. Thanks Sharon Smith for co-ordinating this programme.

### Year 7 and 8 Technology Fee

Some year 7 and 8 technology fees remain outstanding. As the technology programme starts up at the beginning of next term it is essential that we have this money so your child has full access to the materials they need for this programme. Please pay next week (either through the school office or by internet banking) and then we will pay the Technology centre on your behalf. If you are not sure whether or not you have paid, or if you want to discuss a time payment arrangement, please contact Kevin or the school office.

### School Contribution / Activity Fee

If you opted for term payment of school contributions (voluntary) or activity fees (required), and have not yet paid for term 2, you will receive a payment request today or Monday .. please pay by the end of next week, or contact Kevin or the office to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

### Scholastic 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale

Due back at school by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> so the order can be placed before the holidays.

### Lost property

Please drop by to check our lost property bin. Any items left unclaimed at the end of term will be donated to charities.

### Finally

A special thanks to staff, parents and children for your efforts this term. Best wishes for the holidays and safe travel to those visiting other places. There will be no newsletter next week.

**Remember ..** our newsletter is available through our website and can be emailed on request.

Regards  
Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

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### *Matarau Electrical Services*

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### Community Notices

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For Sale – Chihuahua puppies, fully vaccinated \$600 ea, Ph 4336040.

Parenting courses – “Sowing the Seed”- being the parent you want to be, Manaia View School - Wed 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June 10.00am – 2.30pm, “Being Grandparent-Parent” - 2<sup>nd</sup> time around , Thursdays 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June, 10.00am-2.30pm, Te Moemoea Room, 64 Murdoch Crescent, Whangarei. Six sessions over three days with lunch provided, To register contact Jigsaw North: 438 8852.

# School Fundraising

## *Raffle Fundraiser*

A book of raffle tickets is being sent home today with the eldest in each family. There are some great prizes to win, just \$2 per ticket and 10 tickets in a book.

Please return all sold or unsold tickets to the office by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July. Many thanks for supporting our fundraising efforts.



## **Matarau School Ball 2012** **coming in Term 4**

*Watch this space*